

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of this application in light of this Submission. Claim 1 has been amended, claims 2-26 have been canceled, and claims 27-43 have been added. Therefore, claims 1 and 27-43 are presented for examination.

Applicants note that a Notice of Appeal was filed on May 24, 2004, but no Appeal Brief has been filed, and therefore, the Appeal is not awaiting decision. By way of the RCE filed under 37 CFR §1.114 and fee that accompany this Submission, Applicants respectfully submit that the application is hereby withdrawn from Appeal. (See Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), 8th Edition, February 2003, §1215.01.)

Applicants respectfully submit that the amendments made by this Submission are not being made for the purpose of patentably distinguishing the claimed invention over the prior art. The amendments made by this Submission are made solely for the purpose of clarifying the scope of the claimed subject matter. None of the amendments add new subject matter, and all of the within amendments are fully supported by the originally filed application.

Conclusion

The Examiner is requested to initiate an interview with the undersigned by calling 949-498-0601 if the Examiner believes that such an interview will advance prosecution of this application.

Request for an Extension of Time

Applicants respectfully petition for an extension of time to respond to the outstanding Office Action pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.136(a) should one be necessary. Please charge our Deposit Account No. 50-0221 to cover any necessary fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(a) for such an extension.

Charge our Deposit Account

Please charge any shortage to our Deposit Account No. 50-0221.

Respectfully submitted,

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